

REMARKS

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's thorough consideration provided the present application. Claims 1, 3-10 and 12-19 are now present in the application. Claims 1 and 3-10 have been amended. Claims 2 and 11 have been cancelled. Claims 12-19 have been added. Claims 1, 6, 18, and 19 are independent. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Priority Under 35 U.S.C. §119

Applicants thank the Examiner for acknowledging Applicants' claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. §119, and receipt of the certified priority document.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner has indicated that dependent claims 5 and 10 would be allowable if rewritten to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants greatly appreciate the indication of allowable subject matter by the Examiner. Independent claims 18 and 19 have been added which include the subject matter of claim 5 and 10, rewritten into independent form as discussed hereinbelow.

Drawings

Applicants have not received a Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review PTO-948 indicating whether or not the formal drawings have been approved by the Draftsperson. Since no objection has been received, Applicants assume that the drawings are acceptable and that no further action is necessary. Confirmation thereof in the next Office Action is respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claims 1-4, 6-9, and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over the Background art disclosed in the present invention in view of Higashino et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,433,456). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

A complete discussion of the Examiner's rejection is set forth in the Office Action, and is not being repeated here.

In light of the foregoing amendments to claims 1 and 6, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection has been obviated and/or rendered moot. While not conceding to the Examiner's rejection, but merely to expedite prosecution, as the Examiner will note, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite a combination of elements including "the main winding coil and the auxiliary winding coil are alternately positioned within one of the two adjoining coil spans and the other of the two adjoining coil spans, respectively" and independent claim 6 has been amended to recite a combination of elements

including “the main winding coil and the auxiliary winding coil being alternately positioned on one of the two adjacent teeth and the other of the two adjacent teeth, respectively”. Applicants respectfully submit that the combinations of elements as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 6 are not disclosed or suggested by the references relied on by the Examiner.

The Examiner has indicated that the Background art fails to disclose the two adjoining coil spans are different from each other. The Background art also fails to disclose the above combination of elements as set forth in amended independent claim 1 or claim 6. Instead, FIG. 3 of the Background art shows that both the main wining coil 212 and the auxiliary winding coil 211 are positioned across more than one coil span and one tooth, rather than are alternately positioned within/on one and the other of the two adjoining coil spans/two adjacent teeth, respectively, as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 6.

Higashino also fails to cure the deficiencies of the Background art. As shown in FIG. 2 of Higashino, both the first three-phase stator coils 123a and the second three-phase stator coils 123b are positioned across more than one coil span and one tooth, rather than are alternately positioned within/on one and the other of the two adjoining coil spans/two adjacent teeth, respectively, as recited in amended independent claims 1 and 6. Accordingly, Higashino also fails to disclose those aspects of the present invention as set forth in amended independent claims 1 and 6.

Accordingly, neither the Background art nor Higashino individually or in combination teach or suggest the limitations of amended independent claims 1 and 6. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that amended independent claims 1 and 6 clearly define over the teachings of the Background art and Higashino.

In addition, claims 3-5, 7-10, and 12-17 depend, either directly or indirectly, from independent claims 1 and 6, and are therefore allowable based on their respective dependence from independent claims 1 and 6, which are believed to be allowable.

In view of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1, 3-10, and 12-17 clearly define the present invention over the references relied on by the Examiner. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 are respectfully requested.

Additional Claims

Additional claims 12-19 have been added for the Examiner's consideration.

Applicants respectfully submit that new independent claims 18 and 19 have been added to include all of the limitations of the independent claims 1 and 6 and the subject matter of dependent claims 5 and 10, respectively, which were indicated by the Examiner as including allowable subject matter. Accordingly, it is believed that claims 18 and 19 are in condition for allowance.

In addition, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 12-17 are allowable due to their respective dependence on independent claims 1 and 6, as well as due to the additional recitations included in these claims.

Favorable consideration and allowance of additional claims 12-19 are respectfully requested.

Additional Cited References

Since the remaining patents cited by the Examiner have not been utilized to reject the claims, but rather to merely show the state of the art, no further comments are necessary with respect thereto.

Conclusion

All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

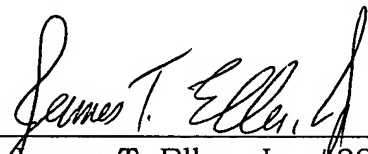
It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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